JUNE 9, 1917 FIVE CENT

The Woman Citizen

THE WOMAN'S JOURNAL
FOUNDED 1870

Official Organ of the National American Woman Suffrage Association

They Shall Not Pass

THE VERY LATEST IN SUFFRAGE MAPS

(DON'T OVERLOOK RHODE ISLAND)

VOTES FOR WOMEN

THE WOMAN CITIZEN

Founded June 2, 1917

Continuing the

WOMAN'S JOURNAL

Founded 1870

By LUCY STONE *and* HENRY B. BLACKWELL

as a Weekly Newspaper Devoted to Winning Equal Rights and Especially to Winning Equal Suffrage for Women, and published weekly in Boston, Mass., from 1870 to 1917.

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and the

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Founded 1915

under the name of the "Headquarters News Letter." In succeeding the National Suffrage News, The Woman Citizen becomes the official organ of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, and as such will try to maintain intimate contact between the Association and its two million members throughout the United States.

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The members of the Commission are Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president; Miss Mary Garrett Hay, first vice-president; Mrs. Raymond Robbins, Mrs. Winston Churchill, Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker, Mrs. Harriet Taylor Upton, Mrs. Thomas Bucklin Wells, Mrs. Arthur L. Livermore.

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171 Madison Avenue
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The Woman Citizen

THE WOMAN'S JOURNAL

A Journal of Democracy

June 9, 1917

"We shall fight for the things which we have always carried nearest our hearts—for democracy, for the right of those who submit to authority to have a voice in their own governments."

Putting the Pay in Patriotism

THERE seems to be stalking abroad, more or less wolfishly, a disposition to lay hold on child labor as the pay for patriotism. Men are to be withdrawn from field and factory. So "let the children do the work."

It would be inexcusable, President Wilson told labor leaders recently, "to set aside temporarily the laws which safeguard standards of labor."

It would be criminal to do so in the case of children.

According to the British Board of Education, "to withdraw the child from school at an earlier age than that contemplated by the attendance by-laws is to arrest his education on the threshold of the years when he is probably just commencing to assimilate and consolidate the instruction he has received and is receiving at school. His introduction to labor at this time renders him liable to conditions of strain detrimental to his physical well being."

Organized labor is fairly safe. It has its unions. It has its votes. Any movement to tresspass on its safeguards will be met with organized opposition. But the children have no unions. They haven't anything much but the women. And the women have got to stand by. If the fight for the child labor law is to be made all over again, the women must help make it. Women are being called on to do a good deal in connection with the war. They will do more that the children may do less.

When every woman in the land has become a productive agent, when every old man is working to the limit of his capacity, it will be time enough to begin to think of throwing the burdens of production upon the young backs of children.

Already the National American Woman Suffrage Association is rounding up its forces for battle on this issue. If occasion develops, all the available machinery of national and state organizations will be put in motion to avert from America the crass disaster of using up her future for the sake of present profit.

Votes for British Women

TO the query are suffragists satisfied with the Franchise Reform Bill that recently passed its second reading in the British House of Commons there can be but one answer. No suffragist can afford to be satisfied with any halfway enfranchisement. Shall anyone be satisfied with less than justice?

It could hardly be successfully maintained that the English Franchise Bill is just. It discriminates against women in favor of men and it discriminates against human beings in favor of property. But if it is not just, it is at least juster than anything that Great Britain has so far perpetrated in the name of the extension of the suffrage, and it seems likely that Mr. Lloyd George's advice on the subject will prevail. His advice was to take a half loaf to gain strength enough to get the whole loaf.

Women's objection to the bill as drafted has been directed at the provision of the age of 30 as the voting age for women, whereas men are of voting age at 21. This is to cut out arbitrarily that great army of young women who have flocked into munition plants, into quarries and machine shops at the call of country and for the country's salvation. To read such absurd injustice into the law is but to invite the onslaughts of time and common sense. Meantime with 6,000,000 of Great Britain's women adjudged entitled to vote, British women will undoubtedly make the most of opportunity to secure equal recognition from a government that has already conceded their main contention.

The Selective Draft Principle

THE selective draft bill is a virtual acceptance of the principles that underlie the demand for equal franchise. It equalizes the service of all classes of people who work for the government in time of war, and completely destroys the much-frayed-at-the-edges doctrine of force as the basis of government. It is not at all as a theory that the selective draft bill has been urged upon America; it is as the ripened verdict of war-torn Europe. England hobbled along on the one-legged theory that a nation may be properly represented only by potential fighters until new and more scientific modes of warfare showed political leaders that this hoary doctrine was of no more use than a flint-lock gun in trench warfare.

"We saw," said Premier Lloyd George, in a discussion of the new franchise laws of England, "that our present electoral basis was impossible." Hundreds of thousands of miners and men in engineering works had been denied the privilege of enlisting because it was considered that their services were more important at home. "Women's work in the war has been a vital contribution. It would have been impossible to produce that

overwhelming mass of ammunition at the Somme had it not been for the work of women. Are you going to fling them out without a voice in determining the new conditions? It would be an outrage."

The work of the stay-by-the-job man and woman was not only necessary to Great Britian and France for carrying on the war, it was practically identical. To account one sex, therefore, as entitled to a vote, and the other not, by old-fashioned measurements of service in war-time, has been proved impractical and unscientific.

The same prospect unrolls before the United States. Men needed to till fields and make munitions are to be kept at their jobs. They will be supplemented by women. Can any sane person argue that of two people serving their country, side by side, the one should be taken as a voter and the other left? The selective draft bill, instigated by men, advocated by men and pushed to a conclusion by men is on every count a vindication of the justice of giving woman a vote in war time.

The Taint of Inconsistency

"WE are going to fight the battle of the world," said Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association in Chicago not long ago. "Every woman in the land should arise now and say: 'Before we unfurl the banner of democracy abroad, let us be consistent at home—let us remove from our standard the taint of inconsistency.' Every woman will go into patriotic service better equipped if she has the vote."

Only the other day an ambulance doctor was talking in an hospital elevator to nurses who are going to France. They were coddling sore and stiff arms pumped full of typhoid serum, but they were eager to be off to the front, as eager as ever the doctor was. He was complaining that only fully naturalized men would be taken on hospital units. When the nurses suggested no such limit was set for the women, he answered, "Well, you aren't citizens and don't count—you can't vote." "No, we can't vote; but we can risk our lives to serve all right," said one. Even as they spoke afternoon papers were calling extras on the street telling of the funeral ship bearing back to port the bodies of the Red Cross nurses of Base Unit No. 12, bound for France and shot in target practice out at sea.

A hospital is a poor place in which to draw distinctions between the service of men and women citizens, in war time. Maybe men in the ambulance units get a little more glory and make more records for science; but in a hospital, as nowhere else, it is evident that women, not men, have the hardest job of all. They stand patient and undaunted by the long-drawn agony of the going out of life. And that is a thing no man could stand. War is no "man's job" when it comes to nursing the wounded and "standing by the dying."

Child Conservation

IN the nation-wide campaign for thrift, the most precious thing to be conserved is the children. Yet they are being tragically wasted; and there is acute danger that this form of wastage will be made worse during the conservation campaign instead of better. On every side there are efforts to lower the educational standards or to suspend the child labor laws. The protest that has been made by the National American Woman Suffrage Association represents the opinion not only of this particular organization, but of the wisest women among all nationalities.

Just before the Russian revolution began, Mrs. Catherine Breshkowsky wrote a letter from Siberia to Miss Julia C. Drury of Bristol, R. I. Mrs. Breshkowsky, it may be said in passing, is in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war. But her soul is harrowed by the neglect of the children. She writes:

"My family is growing from day to day. We have orphans in such a quantity in every place and nook that we must be ready to see the whole country covered with widows and children. What is absurd is that the rich people do very little to mitigate the wants and the misfortunes of the young people who are our only hope for a better future.

"Mankind is so short-sighted that it does not pay attention to what is the most precious thing the world over, children and youth.

"Beasts, plants, bijouterie, furniture, all material things are of great value to them; and the best flower on earth, the best creature of the Creator, is only a burden, an undesired element that hinders and disturbs their good humor.

"They forget that all our happiness depends on the welfare and good education of the country children, that must give us a strong, clever, and honest population.

"This furious war, as I hope, will teach the majority of mankind to understand its own interest, and to improve life throughout."

When women have a vote, there will be more care taken to guard these most precious assets of the human race.

A. S. B.

Draws Families Closer

MRS. JAMES B. REYNOLDS of New York tells of an interesting experience she had in California.

Finding herself one day in a gathering of intellectual women, college graduates, and other women of more than the average amount of education, Mrs. Reynolds asked them, "What has been the most marked effect of equal suffrage in California?" They answered, "Its effect in drawing families together." Not long afterward, she was in a gathering of society women, of a wholly different type. She asked the same question, and got exactly the same answer.

This bears out the statement made several years ago by the Hon. Hugh H. Lusk, a former member of the New Zealand Parliament, while on a visit to this country. In an address before the New England Woman Suffrage Association, he said:

"We find that equal suffrage is the greatest family bond and tie, the greatest strengthener of family life. It seemed odd at first to find half the benches at a political meeting occupied by women; but when men have got accustomed to it, they do not like the other thing. When they found that they could take their wives and daughters to these meetings, and afterwards go home with them and talk it over, it was often the beginning of a new life for the family—a life of ideas and interests in common, and of a unison of thought."

A. S. B.

The Proof of the Pudding

ONE aspect of the recent big vote for woman suffrage in the British Parliament has been generally overlooked in America. The House of Commons went on record, 329 to 40, in favor of giving women a vote for members of Parliament after long and full experience in seeing women vote for almost everything else.

Municipal suffrage was granted to the women of England in 1869. It worked so well that in 1881 it was extended to the women of Scotland, and in 1898, without any opposition whatever, to the women of Ireland. None of the predicted ill results followed. Even the strongest British opponents of full suffrage for women declared that they approved of municipal suffrage, and some of them went so far as to say that its responsibilities had had a good effect upon women.

The chance to observe the workings of municipal woman suffrage came before the granting of full suffrage also in Norway, Denmark, Finland, Iceland, New Zealand, Australia, and the five Canadian provinces which have just given women the full ballot. Kansas, after twenty-five years of municipal woman suffrage, extended full suffrage to women by the largest popular majority ever given to a constitutional amendment for equal suffrage in any state.

It is clear that woman suffrage is a thing that loses its terrors when you get close to it. Even the smallest fraction of it seems terrifying to conservative minds, before it has been tried. In a debate that preceded the granting of school suffrage in Massachusetts in 1879, a member of the Legislature declared, "If we make this innovation, we shall destroy the race, which will be blasted by Almighty God!" Prophecies of the same sort are still made in the Louisiana Legislature, when the periodical effort to get school suffrage for women comes up there. But women now have the school vote in more than half the States of the Union, and in those States not even the men who are the most strongly opposed to full suffrage would claim that school suffrage has blasted the race.

In the United States, the opponents of full suffrage have usually opposed the municipal vote just as strongly. Indeed, one prominent man declared that municipal suffrage was "the very worst and most dangerous form of suffrage for women." In England and other countries, where women already vote at municipal elections, the opponents still insist that full suffrage for women would be deadly poison, while admitting that municipal woman suffrage has proved as harmless as mother's milk.

In Europe, and especially in England, the spread of popular government has been gradual—

> "Freedom broadening slowly down
> From precedent to precedent."

But in America things move faster: and State after State has given women the full ballot, without stopping at the half-way house of municipal suffrage. To any open-minded person, however, it ought to be clear that if women were constitutionally incapable of voting with good sense, the fact would have become manifest during the many years that they have exercised municipal suffrage in England, Scotland, Ireland, Canada, Norway, Australia, New Zealand, etc., and those countries would not have gone on to take the final step in a road that had proved disastrous. Since they have done it, and done it by big majorities, it is a fair inference that all the bugbears had proved to be imaginary.

A. S. B.

Representative Rankin

A PLEASANT side-light upon Miss Jeannette Rankin was given in a speech made at the annual meeting of the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association the other day by Mrs. Minnie Dwight of Holyoke.

Mrs. Dwight lately visited Washington, D. C., and while there she had a talk with Congressman Treadwell of Massachusetts. He told her that no new Representative in Congress had ever made so fine an impression upon the other members in so short a time as Miss Rankin.

"She is always womanly in everything that she does," he said, "and at the same time she is always the Representative from Montana, perfectly competent for all her Congressional duties. The other members go over to her seat to visit her and consult with her about public measures, just as they do with one another."

"Does she ever go over to visit them?" asked Mrs. Dwight.

"She has had no chance to, as yet," answered Congressman Treadwell, "for there is always a waiting list of them wanting to talk with her."

"Is it true that she shed tears when she cast her vote on war?" said Mrs. Dwight.

"I don't know, and it doesn't matter a bit whether she did or not," answered Mr. Treadwell. "There were sixty of the men crying. It was the moment of most tense emotion that there has been in Congress for fifty years."

Later Mrs. Dwight tried to go in and get a look at Congress, but that day the space open to the public was full. She saw the doorkeeper occasionally opening the door a crack, however, to give somebody a peep inside, and it was always Miss Rankin whom the people wanted to see. Mrs. Dwight herself got a peep in this way.

"I was delighted," she said, "to see that she was so good looking and also that she wore such beautiful clothes—beautiful and yet so simple."

At a suffrage banquet given to Miss Rankin in Washington recently Julia C. Lathrop mentioned that Representative Rankin was the only member of Congress who had sent to her for all the publications of the Children's Bureau. This indicates afresh that women's work in public affairs will not be a mere duplication of the work hitherto done by men, but will introduce a new element, with a distinct and important value to the nation.

A. S. B.

A well known nursery man has announced that the rose stock received from France this Spring is the finest ever imported. He adds that it was raised and put up by women and he hopes that when the war is over, the French men will let the women go on raising roses. The improvement in the stock imported has converted him from an opponent of suffrage into a suffragist.

NO FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS

This lady is not setting off Catherine Wheels to amuse the children. She is an acetylene welder putting together two large joints in the midst of this pyrotechnic display. This is one of the expert tasks requiring technical skill, in which British women war workers have become proficient.

She is one of 117,000 British women making munitions for men at the War Front.

(C) Underwood and Underwood

National Child Labor Committee

THE PICK IS MIGHTIER THAN THE CROCHET HOOK

Quite the latest thing in London is this pastime with the pick and shovel. Women navvies are employed by a Westminster firm in demolishing buildings. The costume and gloves are quite the mode—for the navvies.

(C) Underwood and Underwood

Light Worl

(C) Underwood and Underwood

A FIVE-YEAR OLD SHRIMP PICKER

Most children are picking daisies at five years old. But this little chap on the left has been emancipated from that. He picks shrimps for the Mississippi markets.

Photograph from National Child Lab

FILLING SHRAPNEL SHELLS

French women are filling shells with shrapnel. They are no less ready than their English sister munition makers of whom Lloyd George said: "When the first Zeppelin raids were made, when bombs were dropped outside important munition factories, we had some difficulty for two or three days afterward getting men to work at nights. We never had any difficulty with regard to the women."

(C) Underwood and Underwood

FRENCH MUNITION WORKE

rk for Ladies

Labor Committee

WAGE EARNERS OF STANDING

It is more than a year since these little cotton mill workers on the left were free to play, or even to go to school. They belong to a group of 125 such children.

RKING SHRAPNEL SHELLS

WHICH HAS THE LESS LADYLIKE JOB?

When the call to the colors came and men had to go to the front, this plucky woman of Glasgow put on her working togs and took up the hydraulic rivetter dropped by a man needed elsewhere. She is making boilers shoulder to shoulder with a man, and is one of 393,000 women to undertake this industrial work since the war began. Similar arguments for votes for women are found in other Scottish factories.

THEIR LABOR LIGHTS A TOWN

At the left, Mrs. Summers and her daughter are doing "light" labor at Chew Magna. They are making the town's supply of gas. Here they are drawing the fires. Under the supervision of a manager these two women fire the retorts and do all the strenuous duties of the male gas maker.

Large numbers of the "sheltered sex" of Great Britain are similarly engaged in this pleasing pastime.

Photograph from National Child Labor Committee

"DOING HER BIT" FOR THE FAMILY SUPPORT

If this little 10-year-old girl had time for school she looks as if she might "go up head." She is looping in a mill and, as the light shows, she loops by night.

National Child Labor Committee

"SOMEWHERE" IN THE SOUTH

When the night shift whistle blows, these two will begin their regular task in a cotton mill. No, they are not alone; there are plenty more even younger.

(C) Underwood and Underwood

THEY WORK TOGETHER, WHY NOT VOTE TOGETHER?

Safeguarding Industrial Standards

By Ethel M. Smith, Chairman Industrial Department, N. A. W. S. A.

THE campaign by suffragists to safeguard industrial standards in war time, started by the National American Woman Suffrage Association the last of April, has stirred prompt and vigorous response in all directions. This part of the war-service program seems to have a peculiarly powerful appeal, because, no doubt, of its permanent value, in time of peace as well as war.

The declaration of principles and offer of service to the Government, issued by the National Executive Council, in February, contained the promise not only to aid in securing women workers where needed, but "to protect the work of those women." It was realized, in view of English experience, that under the new industrial conditions precipitated by the sudden rush of thousands of women workers into new fields, there was great danger of a break-down of the standards protecting both women and men in industry. To aid in preventing this disaster the National Board decided to conduct, through suffrage agencies, a systematic propaganda against excessive overtime and underpay in industries where women are employed, and put this work in my charge as chairman of the Publicity Bureau of the Washington headquarters of the Association.

After consultation with Representative Keating, chairman of the House Labor Committee, and with representatives of other organizations interested in the protection of women workers, especially with Miss Florence C. Thorne, Mr. John Murray and Mr. Grant Hamilton, all of the American Federation of Labor, the latter also publicity chairman of the Labor Committee of the Council of National Defense—various activities were decided upon and put under way. Data on the entire subject was asked for and promptly furnished by Mr. Owen Lovejoy, of the National Child Labor Committee, and Dr. John B. Andrews, of the American Association for Labor Legislation, to be distributed to our workers. It was agreed on all sides that for suffragists to conduct a widespread and persistent propaganda on the subject of industrial standards would go far to strengthen public sentiment behind the existing laws and customs, thereby preventing any lowering of the standards, as threatened in various industries, in some state legislatures, and actually, so far as the Child Labor Law is concerned, in Congress itself. For the principle of equal pay for equal work there exists obviously an unusual opportunity for suffragists to do effective propaganda.

To the Motherhood of the Republic!

By Louis F. Post

Assistant Secretary, Department of Labor

At this time of appalling stress, military and economic, could anything need emphasis more than the public duty of maintaining humanizing standards in industry? One might expect this duty to be almost self-executing. Its appeal is strong, and not alone to human sympathy, but to every impulse of patriotism. Sympathy, however, is not always sensitive to such appeals, and sometimes patriotic impulses are lost in the dull paganism that mistakes symbols for things symbolized. Emphasis is therefore necessary, if humane industrial standards are to be maintained; and for effective emphasis the country must depend largely upon its woman citizenship.

Among men there are many reckless demands for war measures to loosen laws which, with much pains and after long struggles, have been enacted for the protection of American workers. In the name of patriotism, proposals to conscript Labor, not for direct government service, but for the immediate profit of private interests, are frequently heard. So are proposals to nullify eight-hour laws and other statutory regulations for shielding working men and working women from the fierceness of their perennial fight with Hunger and Cold. There is also a notable eagerness to crowd women of leisure, to whom wages are not even pin money, into the workplaces of bread winners whose livelihood is conditioned by wages. Notable above all is an apparent readiness, which the President has justly and pointedly rebuked, to weaken school laws and child-labor laws so that children may be swept before their time into the "tooth and claw" struggle of the disinherited for existence.

The last of those sacrifices would be one which the country does not yet need. It would be one for which the country can have no need until its need demands all that employers may make as well as all that little children have to give. Children cannot be taken out of school for industrial drudgery without impairing their future usefulness. Our little boys and girls cannot be subjected to long hours of monotonous toil in mines or factories or stores, nor even on farms or in gardens, without our nation's paying an exorbitant price in terms of national decline.

Circumstances may possibly arise for exacting that very last measure of devotion to the cause of democracy. Possibly children may yet have to be sacrificed upon industrial altars for the common good. But those circumstances have not yet arisen; that time has not yet come. Nor can it be decently said that the circumstances have arisen or the time is here so long as common needs may be translated into private gain.

Until the President sounds an alarm calling for the ultimate sacrifice, let the public schools continue their democratic work, and child labor laws as well as other labor laws remain in force unimpaired. The President has distinctly declared the importance of this policy. The Department of Labor, along with the President, is committed to it. Let no thoughtless sentiment allow autocratic greed to break it down. It is a policy, too, which the women of the United States are in a peculiar sense charged with conserving and promoting. Though every one of mature years and sound mind must be held responsible for this policy of child conservation, the task of stimulating a nation-wide sense of obligation to it is a vital function of what one may not inaptly call the motherhood of the Republic.

Government's Bad Example

First of all, when the program was started, it was decided to make public protest against the most important and dangerous example of excessive overtime, namely, the twelve-hour day at the United States Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The director of the Bureau, Mr. Joseph E. Ralph, contended that the rush of work occasioned by the war made the overtime necessary. It was ascertained, however, that the Civil Service registers of girls and women eligible for positions in this establishment were ample to permit Director Ralph to arrange three eight-hour shifts instead of two of twelve hours had he chosen to do so. Secretary McAdoo upon receipt of the protest investigated the situation and forwarded Director Ralph's report on the subject to our Washington headquarters. In that report, more than verifying our previous information on the subject, it was stated that 1,633 girls were working overtime, and of these 545 were on duty twelve and thirteen hours a day, with only two ten-minute rest periods, besides their two half-hour meal periods. This on the part of the Government, while private employers in the District of Columbia are compelled by law to observe an eight-hour day for their women employees, with three-quarters of an hour for lunch! The National Association published the facts in the case of the Bureau of Printing and Engraving in the newspapers, and reiterated its protest to Secretary McAdoo. The Secretary has given further attention to the matter and states in a subsequent letter that Director Ralph is now increasing his force by large numbers, and will shortly reduce the excessive overtime. There has come so far no definite promise to correct it entirely, but Secretary McAdoo's interest in the question will doubtless bring about this result.

Business Responds

Besides this special piece of work, the program of the Industrial Department thus far has consisted of an effort to secure the cooperation of employers generally, and to establish vigilance committees of suffragists throughout the states. Letters were sent to the chambers of commerce of 500 cities asking that they

(*Continued on page 34*)

The Menace to War Workers

By Mary Sumner Boyd, Head of the Data Dept. National American Woman Suffrage Association

[On February 25th the Executive Council of the National offered its services to the Government in case of war. When war was actually declared the services of suffrage organizations were put at the disposal of the National Council of Women, which had undertaken the task of organizing the woman power in war. Within the last six weeks the part that suffragists are destined to take as representatives of women war workers has been recognized by the National Council of Defense in the appointment of Dr. Shaw as Chairman and Mrs. Catt and other suffragists to membership on the Women's Committee of the Council of Defense. The note to the President of February 25th pledged suffragists to protect the work of women in war, and already the National has protested against the twelve-hour day threatened in the Federal Bureau of Printing and Engraving and has undertaken a propaganda for equal pay for women undertaking men's work. In the brief article below are set forth other dangers from which they will be called upon to defend women workers, and child workers also, for the protection of child life is a first requisite in the National's anti-waste program.

The Menace to War Workers will be followed and interpreted in the light of the English experience. In due time short articles will be published on the actual fields of industrial work invaded by women during the war in Europe and America, and others on the impressive structure of legislation built up laboriously in America during the last generation, the war menace to which is briefly stated below.]

THE earlier months of the 1917 legislative sessions saw a very creditable body of protective labor legislation passed in many States. Among them Arizona passed a minimum-wage law, Montana and Nevada an eight-hour law for women, Kansas an improved child-labor law; Arkansas, State-wide compulsory education instead of local option; Delaware, fifth grade compulsory requirement for work permit, eight-hour day, and mothers' pensions; Tennessee, improved child-labor law; Texas increased the occupations included in its fifteen-year age limit; Massachusetts, a State-wide continuation school for children from fourteen to sixteen.

"War Emergency Bills"

With the declaration of war in April both old and new protective legislation was threatened on the plea that war emergencies demanded relaxation of labor laws. Most Legislatures were drawing to a close, so the movement to try in America a policy proved by the recorded experience of England to have been shortsighted not only from the point of view of the worker, but of the output, has not spread to all the forty-one States in session, but it has brought results in some of our largest industrial States.* If the opposition is not determined and well informed we can expect further successes in the dozen Legislatures which will meet in 1918 and in the forty-odd which will meet the year after. In the months between legislative sessions we can expect, what is worse still, the anarchical practice by labor departments and departments of education, sustained by an uninformed public opinion, of condoning disregard of labor and school laws or of authorizing it by administrative order under the plea of war necessity. Already some towns are organizing their school children into working squads. Already officials in Maine, Minnesota, Massachusetts, and North Dakota have announced that the Governor or Public Safety Commission has the power to suspend the laws in time of war.

The States and the Children

In New Jersey officials will "encourage" agriculture by children, and in Pennsylvania the Governor, the Board of Education, and agricultural authorities alike agree that the excusing of children from school for this work is desirable. Both in such administrative decisions as this and in actual legislation suspending labor laws the Eastern States have been most delinquent.

No equal suffrage State has had a law of this kind before its Legislature, nor has any State or local movement to suspend the laws made any appreciable headway in these States.

It was in the day's grind, in the hope of finishing up early in May, that the so-called Brown War Emergency bills passed the New York Legislature. One of these gives the State Industrial Commission power to suspend the labor laws without time limitations, effective restriction to war work, public hearings or proper supervision; the other gives the Commissioner of Education the power to suspend the compulsory education law from April 1st to November 1st. By virtue of these bills the great industrial State of New York would withdraw protection for an indefinite period in many industries from a large fraction of the working women and one-ninth of all working children in the United States. This is a most calamitous example to set the other States, and it is the more egregious because New York has been held up as the model State in the protection of its working children* and has in recent years been slowly and painfully approaching the first rank in the protection of working women. Behind both these bills it is generally recognized that there stand not patriotism, but the canning interests and those farming interests which prefer a "six-penny boy" to a man with a man's pay.

* The information given as to the states covers as well as possible to about May 15 and is gathered from many sources but mainly from National Child Labor Committee & A. A. for Labor Legislation.

* See Bulletin on this subject recently published by Children's Bureau.

The Brown Bills

The Brown bills were preceded in New York, even before war was declared, by a relaxation of other labor laws by the State Industrial Commission in the Curtiss Aeroplane Works.

On April 12th the Governor of Vermont approved an act which went into effect immediately, to the effect that "The Commissioner of Industries may, with the approval of the Governor, suspend the operation of the laws of this State relating to the hours of employment of women and children while the United States is at war."

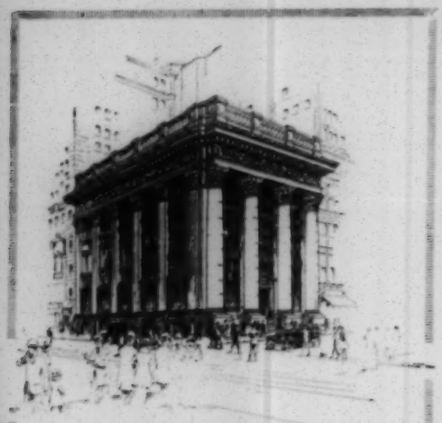
Connecticut and New Hampshire have passed bills allowing the Governor to set aside all child-labor and hour restrictions, but these bills are safeguarded, as will be shown later. Already, without legislative action, one Connecticut law had been cleverly set aside in favor of war work, even before the war. Amy Hewes* tells of the advantage taken by the Bridgeport munition makers of a weak point in the night-work law. "At the beginning of the war," she says, "it was supposed that Connecticut legislation prohibited night work for women. The labor law, however, merely forbade work for women after 10 o'clock. Consequently, with the rush of war work women were employed till 10 o'clock, kept idle from 10 to midnight, and then set to work again." Connecticut is also one of many States which have made short shrift in munition work of laws insuring sanitation and safety.

Relaxation Opposed

Not content with suspending the school law without special legislation, the Pennsylvania Legislature is considering a bill authorizing the Governor to suspend any restrictions relating to labor. The Iowa House passed a bill of the same nature which was, however, killed in the Senate. There is a bill before the New Hampshire Legislature giving the Governor the right to authorize farmers to withdraw their thirteen-year-old boys from school if they need them.

There are probably no State labor and education officials who are not besieged by demands from manufacturers in the most varied industries for suspension of labor laws. Fortunately many State officials oppose relaxation. The New Hampshire Commissioner of Agriculture is one of these. He believes that "the farmers in my State would be the first to protest against sending indiscriminately boys and girls from our cities and larger towns to farms in an

* Survey, January, 1917.



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Suffrage and Service

MARY GARRETT HAY,
Chairman of the N. Y. City Woman Suffrage Party.

MRS. F. LOUIS SLADE,
Chairman War Service Committee Woman Suffrage Party of New York City.

effort to provide farm labor. I think I am safe in saying that if such a thing was done we would need two farmers to look after one boy and teach him how to do the simple things that he might be able to do."

Equally emphatic statements of disapproval come from Superintendents of Education in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and many cities, and from Governors or Labor Commissioners of a dozen States. In some States the Industrial Welfare Commission has emphatically refused to use its discretionary powers to suspend the law in certain industries. As long as no conflicting authority overrides them or as long as actual legislation is not passed these official decisions provide safety.

Federal Authorities Disapprove

Except in so far as the Federal Child-Labor law applies, opposition of State officials and citizens alone can prevent suspension of State labor laws. Nevertheless, the moral effect of disapproval by Federal authorities is great. Two members of the National Defense Council have expressed themselves as opposed. Secretary of War Newton D. Baker is President of the National Consumers' League, which is making a strong fight to preserve State labor laws. Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, made the following statement of his position to the American Association of Labor Legislation: "It is of great national concern that at the outset of the war this country should maintain a scientific program of legal protection for war workers in the interests both of maximum production and of human conservation. We must not permit overzeal to lead to the weakening of our protective standards, and hence to the breaking down of the health and productiveness of labor." Secretary Wilson, of the Labor portfolio, and Commissioner Claxton, of the Federal Bureau of Education, also express themselves as strongly opposed.

The National Council of Defense has appointed a Committee on Labor, on which sit representatives of the National Consumers' League and of organized labor. In a series of resolutions the Council (1) "urges that neither employers nor employees shall endeavor to take advantage of the country's necessities to change existing standards. When economic or other emergencies arise requiring changes of standards the same should be made only after such proposed changes have been investigated and approved by the Council of National Defense: (2) urges upon Legislatures of States, as well as all administrative agencies charged with enforcement of labor and health laws, the great duty of rigorously maintaining existing safeguards of health and welfare of workers, and that no departure from such present standard in State laws or rulings affecting labor should be taken without the declaration of the National Defense Council that such departure is essential for effective pursuit of national defense; (3) urges that before adjournment Legislatures delegate to the Governor of their States the power to suspend or modify restrictions contained in labor laws when such suspensions or modifications shall be requested by the National Defense Council, and such suspension or modification when made shall continue for a specified period and not longer than the duration of the war."

These resolutions are in accord with the principle laid down for such war overwork as may be unavoidable by the American Association for Labor Legislation, which is substantially the principle adopted by the National Child Labor Committee and the National Consumers' League.

"Any legal exemptions granted for extraordinary emergencies should be only for the briefest possible period and with conditions stated in specific form. They should be issued only after official investigation, due notice, and public hearing."

Already some States are responding to this national appeal. The New Hampshire and Connecticut acts referred to above authorize the Governor to suspend labor laws at the request of the Council of National Defense only.* The Governors of Maryland and of Indiana have announced that they will sign no bills not approved by the Council, and both Iowa and Pennsylvania are considering as alternatives to the vicious bills already spoken of others embodying the Council's recommendations.

Uneconomic Conditions

The opposition to wholesale relaxation by representatives of reform organizations and by those in charge of national defense is not based solely on humanitarian principles. It is based mainly on the principle that injurious working conditions are uneconomic. That war overwork in England proved to be wasteful will be shown in the next article. This country already furnishes us a few examples from its war work. The battleships Louisiana and Connecticut were built at the same time. It took 500 men working ten hours a day the same time to finish 60.7 per cent. of the work on the Louisiana that it took 470 men on an eight-hour shift to complete 63.9 per cent. of the work on the Connecticut.

At the outset of the European war the Remington Arms Company were running on a long day. In August, 1915, it put 1,000 men on an eight-hour day, and in January, 1916, extended the eight-hour day to 6,500. This firm says: "We believe that the eight-hour day provides most efficiency in quality of work performed and adds to rather than diminishes quantity of turn-out."

The Remedy

If bad working conditions really mean decreased output, unsafeguarded relaxation of labor laws is no patriotic act to meet a war

* This in addition to the bad school bill previously mentioned.

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The Suffrage Question in Washington

Before the Rules Committee

AT this writing the resolution to create a woman suffrage committee in the House is still pending before the Rules Committee. The three members of that committee whose favorable votes were withheld last week because of their disapproval of the picketing of the White House and the Capitol have not yet reconsidered, so far as can be learned, and the action of the Rules Committee cannot at present be predicted.

The fact that the Rules Committee situation was acute appeared so clearly after the hearing and Representative Harrison's statement on May 18 that strenuous efforts were made by friends of suffrage in Congress to persuade Miss Paul and her organization to abandon the picketing policy. Illogical as it may be on the part of members of Congress to vote against the great principle of equal suffrage because they disapprove the acts of some advocates of that principle, some members do take that attitude, and allow the pickets to impede the progress of the federal amendment. To the persuasions of suffrage members of the House, therefore, Mrs. Catt added an appeal in behalf of the two million suffragists of the National American Woman Suffrage Association that the pickets be withdrawn. And in order to make it plain to all members of Congress in particular and to the public in general that the picketing does not represent this great body of suffragists, the appeal was made in the form of an open letter, which was given to the press. Miss Paul has not yet replied to the letter, but has announced through the newspapers that the picketing will continue, and the pickets are still on duty.

The Congressional Committee of the National Association is continuing its efforts to secure the necessary votes for a favorable report from the Rules Committee. With that accomplished, the resolution creating a suffrage committee will be on the House calendar.

At Last! At Last!

At the moment of going to press the WOMAN CITIZEN is hailed from Washington with the good word that the Rules Committee has reported favorably on the creation of a House Committee on Woman Suffrage. The resolution, introduced by Judge Raker, of California, was known as Resolution No. 12.

Motion to report was made by Mr. Cantrill of Kentucky, Democrat, report to be made after the pending war measures have been disposed of. The motion was adopted by a vote of 6 to 5.

The ayes were: Cantrill of Ky., Foster of Ill., Lenroot of Wis., Schall of Minn., Wood of Ind., Pou of N. C., Chairman of the Committee.

The noes were: Garrett of Tenn., Harrison of Miss., Kelly of Pa., Riordan of New York, Snell of New York.

Not voting: Campbell of Kansas.

Representative Kelly, of Pennsylvania, a good suffragist, voted against the measure only because he did not approve of the provision to hold over the creation of the Committee until after the pending war measures have been disposed of.

Congressmen continue to insist that the number of favorable votes would have been larger if the picketing at the White House, against which the National American Woman Suffrage Association has protested in vain, had not alienated certain votes.

The Rules Committee is to be congratulated upon refusing to allow its record as a whole to be any longer belittled by undemocratic bias.

Veterans Meet Miss Rankin

On the evening of Tuesday, June 5, a reception was given at National Association headquarters in Washington to the Confederate Reunion visitors, to meet Miss Jeannette Rankin. This annual gathering of the Confederate Veterans brought to Washington also the Sons of Confederate Veterans and the Daughters of the Confederacy, numbering in all many thousands of the representative men and women of the South. It was a most auspicious opportunity to introduce to the South the first woman member of Congress, and the throngs that gathered at the beautiful Rhode Island Avenue house proved that the invitation was appreciated.

Dr. Shaw, Honorary President of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, now vested with new honor and distinction as Chairman of the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense, was at the head of the receiving line. Beside her stood Mrs. Catt, President, and next was Mrs. Cordelia Powell Odenheimer, President General of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and Matron of Honor for the United Confederate Veterans. Assisting were Mrs. Caroline Loy Stewart, of Los Angeles, Cal., first vice-president general of the United Daughters of the Confederacy; Mrs. L. M. Bashinsky of Troy, Ala., second vice-president general; Mrs. Lula Lovell, Denver, Colo., third vice-president general; Mrs. Eugene Little, of Wadesboro, N. C., treasurer-general; Mrs. Arthur Walcott, of Ardmore, Oklahoma, secretary general; Mrs. J. Norment Powell, of Washington, D. C., registrar general; Mrs. Frank Anthony Walke, Norfolk, Va., custodian of flags; Mrs. E. T. Sells, Columbus, Ohio, custodian cross of honor; Mrs. Adelbert Warren Mears, of Baltimore, former president of the Maryland Division; Mrs. A. A. Campbell, of Wythville, Va., former president Virginia Division; Sister Esther Carlotta, S. R., St. Augustine, Fla., former president Florida Division; Mrs. Harriet S. Turner, president Jefferson Davis Chapter, Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Samuel Spencer, Washington, D. C., president District of Columbia Division; Mrs. Charles Boughton Wood, Mrs. Philander Claxton, Mrs. William T. Baggett, Mrs. Kate Trenholme Abrahams, and Mrs. Helen Gardener, all of Washington, D. C.

Among the ushers were Miss Ruth Nelson, Miss Dorothy Dennett, Mrs. Elliott Cheatham, Miss Ellen Robinson.

Dr. Shaw spoke briefly of the significance of the reunion of Confederate Veterans in Washington at this time and the share that women are taking in national and international affairs. Mrs. Catt, Miss Rankin and Mrs. Odenheimer also made brief talks during the evening. An orchestra, stationed in the music room just off the large assembly room of the headquarters, played southern melodies and a program of patriotic songs.

Before the War Ends

Judge William Littleford, of Cincinnati, presiding at a great mass meeting on Mothers' Day, made this plea for the immediate granting of federal suffrage to women "as a war measure":

"Of all womanhood's qualities there is none more splendid than fidelity to her men folks in the hour of trouble. She asks not whether they be right or wrong. The mother sits by her criminal son at the bar of justice to plead for him when he has no other friend in the world. The wife in the police court begs the judge to give her drunken husband one more trial. As in the hour of disgrace, so in the hour of glory, the woman ministers to the needs of her men folk, watching in the hospital by the weary bed of pain, toiling at the midnight hour to prepare comforts for the men at the front, and braving even the terrors of the battlefield to bring comfort and solace and aid to the nation's defenders in the hour of deadly peril.

"In the coming awful months, and perhaps years of bloodshed and suffering and sacrifice, the women of America will stand by the men of America, faithful unto death. As the war goes on the men of this country will realize what the men of the countries now at war are coming to realize: first, that if women are expected to help a nation in time of war they ought to have a voice in whether or not the nation shall go to war; second, that if the women of all the nations of the earth are given a voice in the counsels of the nations the likelihood of wars in the future will be very much less than in the past.

"Before the end of the war it will become obvious to all American men that the women of this country are entitled to the right to vote; that it will uplift the entire race, both men, women, and children, to give women the right to vote; that the safety and welfare of the country demand that women should vote; that peace among the nations will be promoted by giving women the right to vote; and before the end of this war the men of America will come to see these things, and when they do they will no longer hesitate to bestow upon all the women of the land the right to suffrage."

Safeguarding Industrial Standards

(*Continued from page 30*)

take steps to protect the women in their local industries. At the same time, the state suffrage presidents were asked to make similar requests, through the local organizations, and if possible to secure the adoption of resolutions on the subject by the chambers of commerce. The letter to the 500 chambers of commerce read as follows:

"The National American Woman Suffrage Association, as perhaps you know, has offered its services to the President and the Government for the war emergency. Its program, which is already in operation, includes the systematic efforts of its 2,000,000 women members to increase and conserve the food supply and to secure women workers where necessary to fill the places of men who are called to military service.

"Another function to which our Association is pledged in this emergency is to conserve the women workers themselves. This problem we recognize as one of the greatest the country has to meet, either in war or peace. Therefore I write, in the name of our Association, to ask whether we may not have your cooperation in the protection of women workers against the dangers accompanying the new and sudden industrial pressure. Through our state and local organizations all over the country, and our special committees appointed for the purpose, we shall do our utmost to educate the women on the subject and hold them to the proper standards of health and economic well-being for themselves and their families. Of employers we ask that they shall not lengthen the working hours of women, and that women who take the places of men, in business offices, stores, factories, or any other occupation, shall be paid at the same rate as men.

"Permit me to emphasize this latter point. We contend that the work performed, not the sex of the worker, should determine the rate of pay. We recognize also the unfairness to men and the injury to industrial standards in general resulting from the competition of low-paid woman labor. Furthermore, the women who take men's places in the war emergency have likewise to bear men's burdens in the support of their families.

"May we not have your cooperation in our effort to conserve the 'woman-power' of this country in this time of stress?"

Replies are coming in daily, and many of the chambers addressed pledge unreserved support to the National Association's efforts, especially to the principle of equal pay for equal work. Others promise due consideration of the subject by their governing boards.

The state suffrage presidents are rapidly appointing their vigilance committees, and at this writing some of the states are already canvassing their local employing concerns with the request for equal pay for men and women. The B. & O. Railroad voluntarily promised this, and the Woman Suffrage Party of New York secured a similar promise from the United Cigar Stores. From the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which recently announced its intention to employ large numbers of women in men's places, we have obtained the assurance that this great corporation will also observe the principle of equal pay for equal work.

Meantime the newspapers have announced that Senator Overman of North Carolina and other opponents of the child labor law in Congress have started a movement for the repeal of this act. Suffragists will regard the first step in such direction as a call to arms, and we are preparing to justify the faith of Representative Keating, author of the national child labor bill, who says, "I am counting upon the women of the country to put the real punch into the fight against any attempt to modify or repeal this law."

The Industrial Department of the National American Woman Suffrage Association is of course working in line with the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense. Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, the chairman of that committee, has announced for her committee the slogan of equal pay for equal work, and women all over the country, to whom that cause necessarily appeals by reason of its fundamental justice and essential relation to the cause of political equality, are taking up the battle-cry with greatest zeal. Nothing is more truly national defense work than this—the protection of women and children against the industrial dangers of war time.

Watching Woman Suffrage Work

By Fred B. Morrill*

I WAS an opponent of woman suffrage prior to its adoption in the state of Washington. I worked and voted against it each time it was before the male voters of the State. My training and environment had led me to believe that the affairs of government should be under the exclusive control of man. Yet it is with much pleasure that I embrace the opportunity of declaring that after carefully observing its effects during the time equal suffrage has been in operation in this State, I am convinced that my former views upon the subject were entirely wrong. I think that women vote as intelligently and as honestly as men, and I know that they are more interested in an honest and efficient government.

In the practice of my profession I have found women jurors earnest and conscientious, giving careful attention to the testimony of the witnesses and the instructions of the court, ever anxious to administer justice fairly and impartially.

Women are as much interested in good government and in the welfare of their country as men, and yet we have declared to the whole female sex that they cannot enjoy the right of franchise just because they are women, although we have allowed the vile and the unclean, ignorant and vicious to vote, simply because they are of the male gender. That cannot be right and it is not treating the women fairly.

As men, we claim the right to decide whether women shall have the right of franchise. We are not even willing they should have the privilege of deciding that question for themselves. That is absurd and shows how selfish we men are. As men we even interpret the Federal Constitution against them.

I am heartily in sympathy with the movement for a Federal Law granting to women equal suffrage with the men. I believe they are entitled to it under the Constitution of the United States, a constitution that guarantees equal rights to all, regardless "of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

* Mr. Morrill is a prominent lawyer of Spokane, Washington.

A Drivelling Muddle

"A drivelling muddle of crowded inefficiency" is the way the Sacramento Legislature was characterized before this spring's annual convention of California's State Federation of Women's Clubs, according to the account of the Los Angeles Times:

"To compare the strict and harmonious parliamentary procedure of the women's convention with a sitting of the Sacramento Legislature is invidious. There really is no comparison. The former, orderly, courteous, relevant, efficient—the latter, noisy, confused, irrelevant, and very smoky."

When Mrs. Seward Simons, president of the Friday Morning Club, declared that improvement would come through the election of women legislators she was cheered to the echo. California has yet to elect its first woman legislator. Six of the eleven full suffrage states have women in the lower houses of their Legislatures.

Menace to War Workers

(*Continued from page 31*)

emergency. Even relaxation with safeguards should be only a last resort. It should not be allowed until all idle labor is occupied. This is the purpose of the woman's agricultural movement set on foot by the National American Woman Suffrage Association and of all other movements which recruit for war service women now idle. This is the object also of the movement inaugurated by the National Child Labor Committee, to train the younger children and to use those of working age for healthy agricultural work, strictly supervised, and made a source of health for the child as well as wealth for the nation at war.

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Buy it. It is that wonder of wonders, a truly readable "novel with a message." National Woman Suffrage Publishing Co., 171 Madison Ave.

THE WILLIAMS PRINTING COMPANY, NEW YORK

Has the War Made Women Inventors?

By Mary Ogden White

EVERY now and then some hard-pushed detractor of woman's political potentiality drags forth the query "where are your great women inventors," in a sort of befuddled insistence that superior inventive power inheres in man in causal relation to his divine right to vote. The war, which has served to throw some needed light on women's inventiveness, has led doubters to conclude that it is a war-made ability. Thus Mr. Garrett P. Serviss considers that Aladdin's Lamp was only a symbol of the human brain's hidden power, "which can perform miracles of achievement if its possessor will only rub it hard enough." And so he thinks that the European War has driven women into getting out their polishing utensils and rubbing up to the nth degree their hitherto unused brain powers, in order to invent substitutes for their old easy-going ways of doing things "rather more or less."

Mr. Serviss, himself, has performed the feat of putting three facts together, and drawing out of them a conclusion. These are his facts: (1) Women have been forced out into new paths; for, even the stay-at-home lady with her servants all departed to munition factories, has not escaped the general war cataclysm. (2) War has made demands never before thought of. A woman, for instance, invented the gas mask in Italy two years ago. A long time for the world to wait for gas masks? Well, who had ever needed gas masks before that? (3) And—fact three—upon the statement of an English patent agent, women are now getting out patents as never before. Said this London agent: "Including patents relating to motor cars, airplanes, and commercial objects, women's inventions in England alone have lately increased in number to as many as 500 in twelve months."

Therefore, Mr. Serviss and the London patent agent have come to think that only just now have women become inventors, and all because of the great war. A conclusion that is their own invention.

As a matter of history and legend, women have been inventors ever since the world began. The wife of the Fourth Emperor of China is accredited with having invented silk weaving; it was Adossa, the wife of Ninus, who is said to have invented aerial telegraphs; Noema taught the Jews the art of spinning in 1997 B. C.; the wife of Emperor Yao taught spinning in China in the 24th Century B. C.; Semiramis invented the chariot armed with scythes; Penthesilea, the Amazon, invented the javelin; Callirrhoe originated the art of drawing, being the first person to make a sketch in pencil of her betrothed husband; and Hypatia invented the planisphere and the astrolabe.

Mrs. Mary Kies invented a machine to weave straw with a woof of silk or thread. Christian Shaw, a Scotch woman, was the first person to produce linen thread. This was in 1720. The wife of General Greene in 1790 invented the cotton gin, but made no fortune herself. In this she has had many fellows, for the woman who, according to Mr. Andrew Carnegie—quoted by Russell Conwell—invented the iron squeezers, which laid the foundation for all the steel millions of the United States, has had neither fame nor fortune. The wife of the Bristol shipbuilder, who suggested copper nails for ships, made a vicarious fortune—for her husband. And who knows anything at all about the American woman who patented a process for turning out horse-shoes on a big scale? It is said she saved her country $250,000, in which economic advantage it is doubtful if she shared.

Mr. Russell Conwell is also the authority for stating that a farmer's wife invented the printing press, and that another unknown woman gave the idea of trolley switches to the world.

Who was that first American woman to obtain a patent, granted, it is said, in 1809? Her name has gone down in oblivion. Between the years 1790 and 1890, women were granted not quite 3,000 patents, but between 1884 and 1910 they patented in the United States of America alone 7,942 inventions. These varied from a baby jumper to a deep-sea telescope.

Never think that women's inventions have been confined to household improvements. It was Mrs. Martha J. Coston who invented the pyrotechnic signalling system called "Coston beacons." This system has long been in use for night signalling by the navies of the United States and Italy. Madame Curie, moreover, has refuted for all time the idea that women can not make excursions into the most abstruse sciences. In 1915, Mrs. Walter Frank Rittman aided her husband in perfecting his process of cheapening the production of gasolene. Without her aid he could not have perfected another process, also, the application of which, it is reputed, will make the United States independent of other nations in the manufacture of dyestuffs. Madame B. Pecourt invented a process for extracting cobalt from the minerals which contain it.

The *Women Lawyers' Journal*, surveying fifty patents granted to women inventors in 1914, notes among others a patent for a system of electrical distribution and control; electric engine-starters; an automatic lubricator for a journal-box; a new form of rivet; a wheeled luggage carrier; a parachute garment to be worn by aeronauts, and a portable warming appliance for the beds of invalids. In the New York *Tribune* of March 3, 1917, were reported two inventions by women, one of a submarine to submerge in eight minutes instead of ten, invented by Mrs. Anna Staley of Ohio, and the other a boot for "drop-foot," a common ailment among soldiers not accustomed to continuous foot strain. This was invented by Miss Halle, a well-known sculptress of Chelsea, London.

Innumerable inventions have been made by women during this war to alleviate the distress of the sick and wounded. In November, 1916, Miss Mary Davies, bacteriologist at Ris-Orangeis Hospital in France, completed experiments which minimize the danger of wound infection. One of the greatest causes of infection discovered by the hospitals has been from pieces of clothing shot into the bodies of injured soldiers. Miss Davies's experiments consist in a treatment of cloth by antiseptic substances so that after months of subjection to all forms of germs it remains absolutely sterile. Last June, 1916, Miss Johanna Stiefvater invented an illuminating eye-shield. Long ago Mme. E. Bellanger invented an apparatus for drying sterilised objects by the evacuation of steam and of preserving them as dried.

For their own home tasks, here is a casual little summary of a few things recent patent office records accredit to women:

A pan for collecting soot from oven walls; a portable bed warmer for the sick; a portable folding wardrobe; a parcel post egg carrier; a knee-rest for crutches; a go-cart cover; a mending patch; a direction indicator for automobiles; a security envelope; a shipping package; a disinfecting poultry roost; a new combination for preserving eggs; a patent drinking cup; sanitary garbage cans; ash-cart covers; devices for removing hot dishes from the ovens.

Mme. Fritsche patented a galvanic chain for sanitary purposes; Mlle. Auerbach invented a comb which brings a liquid directly upon hairy leather; Mlle. Dosne invented a pocket typewriting machine.

From sweeping before her own door-step to cleaning the public streets is a direct and natural step. And it is said to have been Mme. Rozet Larouge who invented an automatic machine for washing public roads.

It is more than reasonable to suppose that bringing woman into new callings has extended the reach of her inventive skill in the past three years. Her record shows that what she has undertaken has benefited by her resourcefulness. As women participate in civic life more and more this resourcefulness will be called out to meet the new demands upon it. It is a pity that the proved ability of woman to respond to calls upon her inventive genius has in the past been withheld from the common human needs of the world because of a preconceived notion that "women were not inventive."